

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Establish  
Policies and Rules to Ensure Reliable, Long-Term  
Supplies of Natural Gas to California.

Rulemaking 04-01-025  
(Filed January 22, 2004)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES' RULING  
REGARDING THREE MOTIONS**

**Summary**

Today's ruling addresses three motions that were filed in this proceeding.<sup>1</sup> The first is the April 20, 2004 motion of the County of Los Angeles (County) to intervene in this proceeding. The second is the April 23, 2004 motion of the Southern California Generation Coalition (SCGC) requesting permission for interested parties to file reply comments. The third is the April 30, 2004 motion of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) and Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) for a two-week extension of the filing date for reply comments in Phase II of this proceeding.

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<sup>1</sup> We note that the Wyoming Natural Gas Pipeline Authority electronically distributed a motion on or about April 2, 2004 requesting leave to file late comments in this proceeding. However, it does not appear that this motion was filed with the Commission's Docket Office in accordance with Article 2 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. Accordingly, today's ruling does not rule on that motion.

### **Motion to Intervene**

According to the County's motion to intervene, it is a large consumer of natural gas. Since the purpose of this proceeding is to establish policies and rules to ensure reliable, long-term supplies of natural gas to California, the County has a direct and substantial interest in this proceeding because it will be directly affected by any Commission decision.

No one responded to the County's motion to intervene.

The County's motion to intervene in this proceeding is granted, and the names listed on page 2 of the County's motion to intervene shall be added to the service list for this proceeding.

### **Motion Requesting Permission to File Reply Comments**

Under the schedule adopted in the March 5, 2004 ruling for this proceeding, interested parties may file comments on the respondents' Phase II proposals on June 4, 2004, and the respondent utilities may file replies to the interested parties' comments on June 18, 2004.

SCGC requests that interested parties, along with the respondent utilities, be allowed to file replies to the comments that interested parties will be filing on June 4, 2004. SCGC states that it is common practice for the Commission to allow both the utilities and interested parties to file responses to the interested parties' opening comments. SCGC believes that the additional replies will provide the Commission with added insights into the important issues that are being considered in Phase II of this proceeding.

No one filed any response to SCGC's motion.

Providing interested parties, as well as the respondent utilities, the opportunity to reply to another interested party's comments will provide the Commission with additional information into the various Phase II issues.

Accordingly, SCGC's motion requesting permission to allow interested parties, as well as the respondent utilities, to file replies to the June 4, 2004 comments of interested parties, is granted. As discussed in the next section, the respondent utilities and interested parties may file on July 2, 2004 their reply comments to the comments of interested parties that are to be filed on or before June 4, 2004.

**Motion for a Two-Week Extension of the Filing Date**

SDG&E/SoCalGas request a two-week extension of the filing date for reply comments in Phase II of this proceeding. The respondent utilities' Phase II proposals were filed on April 23, 2004.<sup>2</sup> Under the current schedule, interested parties may file comments on the Phase II proposals on June 4, 2004, and the respondent utilities' replies are to be filed on June 18, 2004. If the motion of SDG&E/SoCalGas is granted, the reply comments would be filed on July 2, 2004.

SDG&E/SoCalGas state that granting a two-week extension will benefit the Commission by allowing the parties adequate time for parties to review the June 4, 2004 comments.<sup>3</sup> If as many comments on the Phase I proposals are filed in Phase II, SDG&E/SoCalGas state that it will be difficult for parties to file thorough reply comments in just two weeks.

The motion of SDG&E/SoCalGas also states that the 27 parties listed on page 3 of the motion either support or have no objection to the two-week extension. No one filed any response to the motion.

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<sup>2</sup> Phase II proposals were filed by SDG&E/SoCalGas, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, and Southwest Gas Corporation.

<sup>3</sup> SDG&E/SoCalGas acknowledge in their motion that SCGC has requested that interested parties be allowed to file reply comments as well.

Extending the schedule by an additional two weeks for Phase II will not result in a delay of the processing of the Phase II issues. Instead, the extension will provide parties with more time to fully respond to the June 4, 2004 comments to the Phase II proposals.

The motion of SDG&E/SoCalGas to extend the time for filing reply comments by two weeks is granted. The new filing date for any interested parties and the respondent utilities to file reply comments to the June 4, 2004 comments on the Phase II proposals, shall be July 2, 2004.

Therefore, **IT IS RULED** that:

1. The April 20, 2004 motion of the County of Los Angeles (County) to intervene in this proceeding is granted.

The Docket Office shall add the three names listed on page 2 of the County's motion to the service list in this proceeding.

2. The April 23, 2004 motion of the Southern California Generation Coalition seeking permission for interested parties to file reply comments is granted.

Any interested party, as well as the respondent utilities, who desire to reply to the comments to be filed by interested parties on or before June 4, 2004, may do so by filing and serving their reply comments on July 2, 2004.

3. The April 30, 2004 motion of San Diego Gas & Electric Company and Southern California Gas Company for a two-week extension of the filing date for reply comments in Phase II of this proceeding is granted.

The new due date for the filing of reply comments for Phase II shall be July 2, 2004.

Dated May 25, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ JOHN S. WONG

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John S. Wong  
Administrative Law Judge

/s/ DAVID K. FUKUTOME

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David K. Fukutome  
Administrative Law Judge

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judges' Ruling Regarding Three Motions on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated May 25, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ FANNIE SID

Fannie Sid

**N O T I C E**

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.